

Public Hearing Testimony
Shelbie Fettig
Glastonbury FFA Chapter

Good Evening, My name is Shelbie Fettig and I am currently a senior in the Glastonbury Agriscience Program at Glastonbury High School. Four years ago, I was given a great opportunity to attend the Glastonbury Agriscience Program from my hometown of Manchester. This allowed me to fulfill my passion of studying animal science. Since then, I have taken classes in Veterinary Technology, Kennel Management and Reproduction & Genetics. I now have a strong foundation for pursuing a career in Agriscience. The Agriscience Program motivates students to continue their studies outside the classroom through participation in the FFA and the Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE). As the current District III FFA President and the Glastonbury FFA Chapter President, I am always looking for opportunities to grow in my leadership abilities and to help my fellow members to grow, as well. In my SAE project, I develop Agricultural based lesson plans and leadership workshops. I am constantly learning new ways to become a stronger leader through my participation in the Agriscience Program.

Throughout my high school career, my Agriscience teachers have always been there for me when I needed directions or a confidence booster to get me through my next competition. They have given me the tools to succeed, even when this meant long hours of planning and dedication. These experiences led me to my career goal of becoming an Agriscience teacher. I hope to enlighten and advise my students just as my teachers have done for me. I plan to further my education by attending Delaware Valley College in the fall to study Agriculture Education. Without the opportunity to attend the Glastonbury Agriscience Program I would not be pursuing an agricultural career.

Dedication, strength, courage, and commitment are all virtues that the agriscience program has taught me. From the moment I tried on my stiff, blue, corduroy FFA jacket, I realized that this organization was not only going to be about taking a few Agriscience classes, but an opportunity to become a person with enough courage to speak in front of a room filled with people and a person who was prepared to handle a huge Holstein cow in the show ring. I love being a part of this life changing program because without it, I wouldn't be the person I am today. Please increase funding for Agriscience programs by adopting the ECS Task Force School Choice Funding recommendation into the Governor's Proposed Budget so that more students, like myself, have the opportunity to benefit from this program and to be a part of the future of agriculture.

Thank you.